

Message Text

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40

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10

SAJ-01 H-01 SS-15 IGA-01 /069 W

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R 091607Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3303

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE ON RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL
TALKS ON CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY: ATHENS NEWS MEDIA GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE
TO NICOSIA REPORT ON RESUMPTION JANUARY 14 OF INTERCOMMUNAL
TALKS. PRESS ACCOUNTS COVERED U.N. PRESS SPOKESMAN'S
STATEMENT, REMARKS OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE SPOKESMAN, AND
WASHINGTON EFFORTS TO REGISTER PROGRESS BEFORE FEBRUARY 5.
END SUMMARY.

2. LOCAL RADIO/TV AND ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORTED JANUARY 9
AS PRIORITY ITEM RESUMPTION OF CLERIDES/DENKTASH TALKS.
HEADLINES APPEARED IN PROMINENT POSITION IN MORNING
DAILIES: "FEDERATION TO BE SOLUTION IN CYPRUS," "ESSENTIAL
TALKS BEGIN IN NICOSIA WITH FEDERATION AS BASIS," "TALKS
WITH FEDERATION AS SOLUTION BEGIN - WASHINGTON PROMISES
SUPPORT," "BLUFF OF TURKS FAILED." PRESS ACCOUNTS NOTED
CLERIDES/DENKATASH ISSUED JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOWING THEIR
2-HOUR MEETING JANUARY 8 AND THAT UN OFFICIAL CHARACTERIZED
AGREEMENT AS "WELCOMED DEVELOPMENT." STATEMENT AS QUOTED
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IN ATHENS NEWSPAPERS SAID TWO NEGOTIATORS AGREED "TO BEGIN

DISCUSSING POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN
FEDERAL STATE." ATHENS ACCOUNTS ADDED THAT ACCEPTANCE BY
GREEK SIDE OF FEDERAL SOLUTION CONSTITUTED IMPORTANT
CONCESSION WHICH TURKISH SIDE SHOULD APPRECIATE. NEWSPAPERS
POINTED OUT THAT TURKISH DEMANDS FOR INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES
HAD BEEN SET ASIDE. REPORTS ALSO NOTED ANNOUNCEMENT CAME
AFTER WASHINGTON MEETING OF PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY
KISSINGER AND AMERICAN AMBASSADORS TO ATHENS, ANKARA, AND
CYPRUS INVOLVING U.S. EFFORTS "TO MARK SIGNIFICANT
PROGRESS LEADING TOWARD SETTLEMENT BEFORE FEBRUARY 5
DEADLINE WHICH WAS SET BY CONGRESS" FOR CUT-OFF OF U.S.
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN'S
COMMENTS WERE ALSO WIDELY REPORTED.
STEARNS

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